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CH 502 Church History II

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CH 502
CHURCH HISTORY II

August 2005

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Credit: Three Semester Hours

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I want to welcome each of you to the continuation of our class in the history of Christianity, which continues this semester with the Protestant Reformation and proceeds through the modern religious awakenings and the Enlightenment to a consideration of recent historical and theological developments in nineteenth and twentieth centuries. It is my prayer that we will continue to discern the movement of the Holy Spirit, as God has been tapping persons and impacting cultures with the cleansing and transforming power of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. I would also pray that we will sense God's leading in showing each member of our class where his/her strategic role in Christ's Body is to be found, so that the Church may become ever more faithful in its obedience to her Lord, and that the prayer "Thy kingdom come" might become an ever more present reality in our world.

Course Description

This course is the second part of a two-semester study that intends to introduce students to the development of the Christian Church from the Protestant Reformation to the Modern Era. Our emphasis will be placed upon central historical figures, movements and theological issues, with attention given to their relevance for our ministry today. Emphasis will be placed upon important primary texts, as well as interpretive studies.

General Goals:

1. To understand and appreciate the Christian tradition so the student recognizes that our generation lives on the growing edge of a vast Christian heritage.
2. To grasp the normative historical expressions of the church that defined its community and mission, with applications to Christian ministry today.
3. To acquire basic factual knowledge of the persons, places, dates, events, and movements that shaped the history of the Christian Church.
4. To comprehend the issues that motivated the Church to develop its beliefs, practices, and structures and to grasp why, from time to time, the Church modified them.
5. To understand the evolution of Christian doctrine with respect to Scripture and tradition and to learn to discern between form and content.
6. To appreciate the importance of primary sources in their original contexts and the nature and effects of historical interpretation.
7. To view the Church's present ministry in the light of the prior beliefs and actions of the Christian community.
8. To evaluate one's Christian vocation in the light of the Christian tradition.
9. To gain insight into the nature and practice of Christian ministry.
10. To acquire insight into the multi-ethnic and cross-cultural nature of ministry.
11. To participate in the task of developing capable and effective Christian ministry and leadership for the contemporary church which will maintain its faithfulness to its vital heritage.
12. To locate the historical discipline within the broad spectrum of theological studies and develop sensitivities to the interrelationship of the biblical, historical, theological and pastoral disciplines.

Specific Learning Goals:

1. To identify the key historical period of the Reformation and Post-Reformation eras.
2. To understand the major Reformation traditions—Lutheran, Anabaptist, Reformed, and Anglican—and their theologians, especially in terms of faithfulness to the teachings of Scripture, the nature of the church, the sacraments, and soteriology.
3. To grasp the significant issues pertaining to salvation in the Protestant Reformation and understand the issues relating to Roman Catholicism.
4. To understand the Roman Catholic response to the Protestant Reformation, particularly the Council of Trent.
5. To recognize and evaluate the major issues involved in the church's ministries within the Christian community and its efforts to relate to the social and political structures of the modern world.
6. To explore the eighteenth-century Enlightenment's impact on the church.

7. To articulate the Puritan, Pietist, and Methodist traditions, and to develop an increased awareness of the significant contributions of Wesleyanism to the broader church.
8. To demonstrate an understanding of the First and Second Great Awakenings.
9. To understand the cultural and theological context of historical criticism and its effect on the nature and authority of Scripture.
10. To reflect on the problems and possibilities of church/state relations during this period.
11. To explore the interaction between church and culture, as the leading theologians developed their theologies, and with attention to the interaction of Western Christianity with non-Western theological traditions and cultural expressions of Christianity.
12. To survey the major religious cults, with a view to the students' future ministries in evangelism, nurture, and leadership.
13. To trace the rise of modern missions and how Christianity became a global religion.

Course Assignments and Requirements

We will have two comprehensive essay exams based upon the reading in Gonzalez, *The Story of Christianity* (volume two), in relation to the lectures, source readings, selections from Gonzalez' *History of Christian Thought* (Vol. 3), and Irvin and Sunquist, *History of the World Christian Movement* (Volume II – after publication in 2003), one at mid-term and one at the end of the semester. They will consist of short-answer questions that can be answered in ca. 50 words. The examinations will focus on both the theory and practice of Christian ministry. Questions will be crafted in such a way as to implement the course goals. Attention to these goals will aid the student in preparation. [note: include a reading report with final exam, which will represent five of the 20 points for participation.]

Grading: Points will be assigned for the completion of the above course requirements as follows:

Mid-term Exam.....	80
Final Exam.....	100
Participation.....	20
Total.....	200 points

Upon completion of all requirements, grades will be determined in the following manner:

180-200 A (90-100%)

160-179 B (80-90%)
140-159 C (70-80%)
120-139 D (60-70%)
below 119 F

Required Textbooks

Bettenson, Henry, ed., Documents of the Christian Church (Oxford paperback, second ed.). This is a record of crucial letters and texts of official church proclamations that shaped the direction of church leadership in the history of the church.

Gonzalez, Justo. The Story of Christianity, Vol. 2 (Abingdon paper ed., 1984)
A concise, but insightful, analysis of the history of modern Christianity that weaves a narrative which is often compelling for the reader.

Gonzalez, Justo. History of Christian Thought, Vol.3 (Abingdon, 1971)
An in-depth treatment of theological developments. (abbreviated: HCT)

Kerr, Hugh T., ed., Readings in Christian Thought. (Abingdon paper ed ed.,1990). A concise collection of selected texts illustrating the style and message of major writers in the history of Christian thought (through the modern era).

Rand-McNally Historical Atlas of the World (paperback ed., which give geographical perspective on the global dimensions of modern Christianity).

Recognizing that this course is primarily an introduction to the history of Christianity, we are also provided with an attached bibliography of primary and secondary works that will enable us to begin an ongoing reading program in the literature of the history of the church (ATS library call numbers are included). I would also encourage you to begin building a good library with tools that will be useful to you on a long-term basis. Be sure to allocate enough time and resources to acquire the tools you will need.

Reading and Lecture Schedule

You are strongly encouraged to start early and keep up with our reading schedule (and even get ahead!). Another important reading tip is to read an assignment before it is discussed in class. Then, after the class session, reread the same material (an in-depth reading!) before proceeding to the next assignment.

August 9

Martin Luther; Gonzalez, 2-4 (=Chapters); Kerr, 20 (=selection no.); Bettenson, pp. 182-211; HCT, 2 (Chapter).

August 10

Zwingli and the Anabaptists; Gonzalez, 5-6; Kerr, 26.

August 11

Calvin and the Anglicans; Gonzalez, 7-8; Kerr, 22, 24; Bettenson, pp. 212f, 217-243; HCT, 6.

August 12

Later Struggles of Protestantism and the Counter-Reformation; Gonzalez, 9-11, 15; Kerr, 23, 25; and Bettenson, pp. 214-216.

August 16

The Puritans, Protestant Orthodoxy, and Enlightenment; Gonzalez, 17-18, 21; Kerr, 21 and 27; and Bettenson, pp. 244-251, 258-267; HCT, 10 (pp.254-272), 12.

August 17

The Spiritual Writers and Pietism; Gonzalez, 22-23; Kerr, 28, 31; Bettenson, pp. 252-255.

Mid Term Exam (select question on HCT, 2,6, or 10).*

August 18

Christianity in Colonial and Nineteenth Century America and France; Gonzalez, 24-26; Kerr, 29-30; and Bettenson, pp. 282-290, 256f.

August 19 Latin America and Protestant Theology in the Nineteenth Century; Gonzalez,

27-28; Kerr, 32, 34, 41-44; HCT, 13.

August 23

Catholicism, Orthodoxy, and the Rise of World Missions; Gonzalez, 29-33; Kerr, 36.

August 24

The World Wars and Theological Reorientation; Gonzalez, 34-36; Kerr, 46, 47, 50, 51, 52, and 55; Bettenson, pp. 327-334 (ecumenism).

August 25 Review

August 26 Final Exam (Select question from HCT, 13).*

*What is distinctive about the understanding of Christ and salvation in (Luther, Calvin, or Arminius, for the mid term, and Schleiermacher, for the final)?

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- Rupp, E. G., ed., Luther and Erasmus on Free Will: Library of Christian Classics XV, (1961)
- Tappert, T. G., ed., Luther's Letters of Spiritual Counsel: Library of Christian Classics, XVIII, (1955) BR331 E5 T3
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O'Malley, J. Steven, Early German-American Evangelicalism (Scarecrow)

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